MARVEL COMICS
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
AND
SPELLBOUND
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MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS WOLVERINE

Colin MacNeil — COVER
Richard Ashford — EDITOR
Michael Kraiger — ASSISTANT EDITOR
Tom DeFalco — EDITOR IN CHIEF

WOLVERINE..... pg. 1
"RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE"
Part 3 of 6
"MASQUE"

Wolverine suspects that there is more than meets the eye to these strange beings that have attacked him. However he wasn't expecting Doc Samson to show up. And now he asks, is Doc in control, or being controlled?

Plot — ERIK LARSEN
Scripter — CHRIS MARRINAN
Artist — CHRIS MARRINAN
Letterer — UL HIGGINS
Colorist — JOE ANDREANI

SPELLBOUND..... pg. 9
"EARTHBOUND"
Part 2of 5

Zxaxz has finally overcome the Earthling Erica, a rival Spellbinder, and trapped her in a crystal prison. Now he senses the presence of Roy, her brother, and his emerging power. Zxaxz plans to go to Earth to challenge Roy and his companions, Sally, Snugg and Snaarl.

Writer — BOBBIE CHASE
Pencils — TERRY SHOEMAKER
Inks — CARL POTTS
Letterer — DAVE SHARPE
Colorist — CARL GAFFORD

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MARVEL READERS PRESENT

c/o Marvel Comics Group
387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016
Attention Correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

Dear Richard, and Mike,

I'd just like to say farewell to the old creative team, and hello to the brand new one. So, without further adieu, here's the review for MCP #133.

Wolverine cover: Although it could have used a bit more color, say a nice blood red, this was still a good cover. Grade: A.

Ghost Rider cover: Now this is a great cover. Colin MacNeil's work was great, and I hope he'll be doing more material for this title. Grade: A+.

"Brothers in Arms" Part 2: This is even better than the first chapter was. Dan Slott is a fantastic writer, and Steve Lightle is his usual great self. I especially liked page 8. Grade: A+.

"Depths of Despair" Part 1: After only one chapter, this is off to a good start. I look forward to the upcoming confrontation with Sabretooth. I just hope Iron Fist doesn't give another long-winded speech like the one on pages 14 and 15. Grade: B+.

Cloak and Dagger: I hate to tell you this, but there's a major problem with this story, namely the presence of a vampire. When Doctor Strange recited the Montesi Formula, he destroyed all the vampires on Earth. So how is it that good old Tessa is around to menace our heroes? I hope someone has an explanation. At least the artwork was good. Grade: C.

"Heart and Soul" Part 3: This had some nice artwork, but the story was a bit slow. Still, it wasn't bad, and I look forward to the next chapter. Grade: A-.

Overall grade: B+. See ya next issue, guys!

Ben Herman
45 Runyon Place
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Dear MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS,

I have been following various Marvel titles for about ten years now. Although I don't often stray from my usual X-books I did have a small amount of extra cash and decided to use it on MCP because I have a friend who recommended it. Issue #134 has got to be one of the best comics I have read to date. The James Fry cover was stunning. I also really enjoyed Freddy Mendez's work.

I enjoy the format of MCP and the fact that it is adless. Oh, and one more thing, could you have a Bishop or Archangel serial? I really enjoy these two X-characters who don't get too much time in the spotlight.

Jonathan Rowe
1164 Clark St.
San Jose, CA 95125

Hope you'll be a regular now, Jonathan. We'll look into Archangel and Bishop's schedules.

Dear Richard,

The best story of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #134 was the Vance Astro solo tale. Vance is my favorite Guardian, and I really enjoyed seeing him in these pages. Freddy's artwork complemented Mariano's script very well. A great story. A+.

I've been following this title since the first issue, and there are still a few characters I'd like to see appear here who haven't done so yet. How about concentrating on the characters who don't have their own books instead of overdosing on those that do? Just a thought.

Joe Chrisbano
35 Coach Drive
Waterbury, CT 06708

How's Spellbinder for a character you haven't seen much of?

RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE, PART 3
MASQUE
WOLVERINE
IN A JUNGLE ON THE ISLAND OF KOMA KOI, WOLVERINE HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY STRANGE BEINGS. IT'S GOING TO GET STRANGER.
DOC SAMSON! IT'S ME, WOLVERINE! YA KNOW ME, DON'T YA? LUCKY THING I...
I REALIZE I'M WASTIN' MY BREATH... TH' LOOK IN SAMSON'S EYES... NO DIFFERENT FROM TH' GORILLA I CARVED UP...
TH' LOOK OF A PREDATOR... SINGLE-MINDED... DEADLY...

IRONIC... HE'S TH' ONE LINK WITH REALITY I'VE SEEN SINCE I DROPPED IN ON THIS MASQUERADE PARTY.
AN' I MAY HAVE TA KILL 'IM...
SURE YA DON'T WANNA TALK THIS OUT, DOC? BE A SHAME TA HAVE TA CUT YA UP.
...OR HIM, ME.
THE PEANUT GALLERY COMES TA LIFE SOUNDIN' FER ALL TH' WORLD LIKE A PLAGUE O' LOCUSTS.
TZKK KKK KRKZZKNNG TWK!
KREKKZT!
JOINED IN BY WHAT 'PEARS TA BE TH' BABE IN CHARGE...
...COULD BE LAYIN' SOME NEW GROUND RULES.
OR MAYBE SHE'S JUST TH' HALF-TIME ENTERTAINMENT.
SZZKT!
SKRAKT
A BLUR OF MUSCLE, GRISTLE 'N' BONE IMPACTS ON MY JAW...

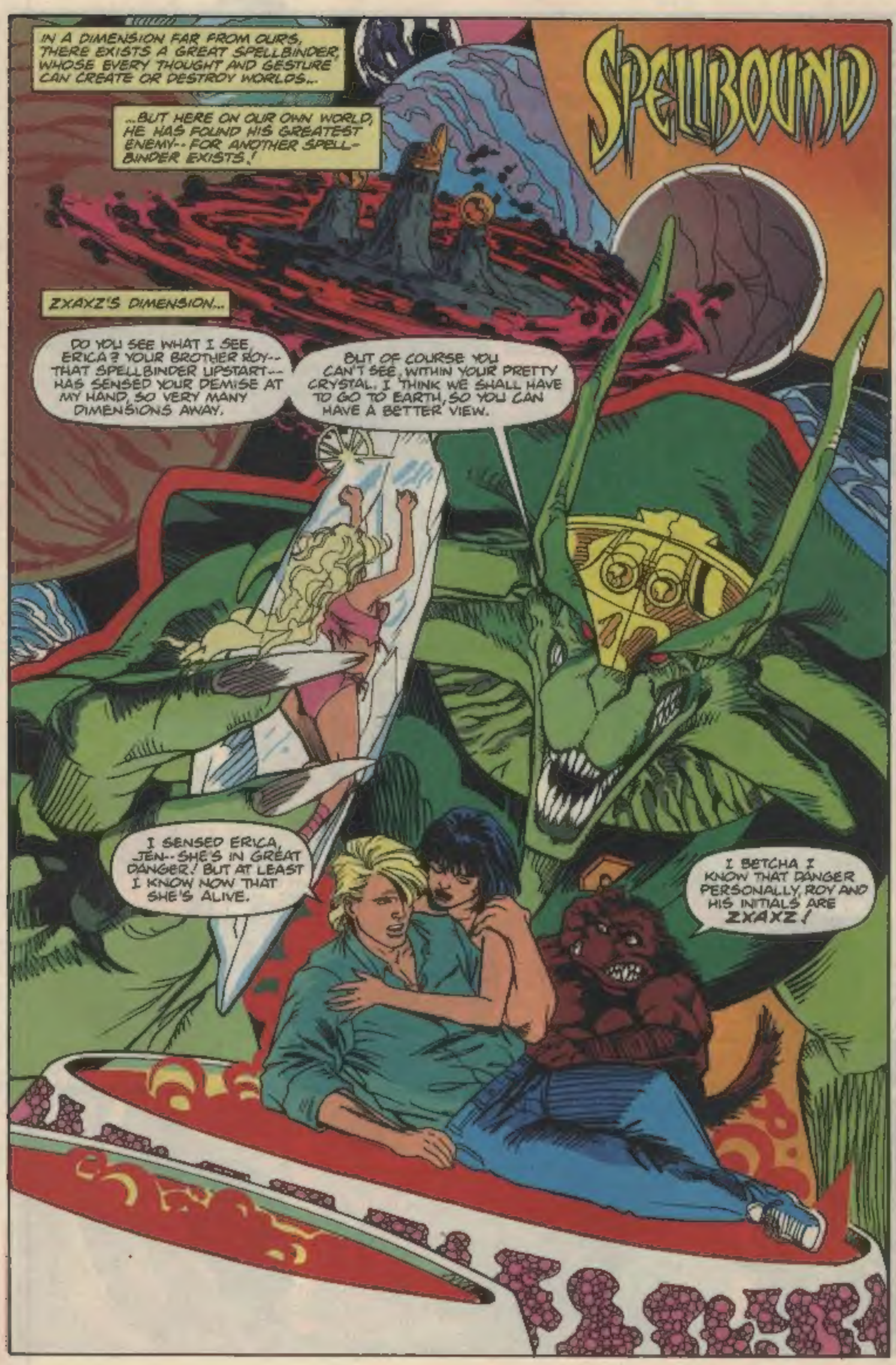
JUST THE EYE OPENER I NEEDED. 'N' SPEAKIN' OF EYE OPENERS...
I CONFUSE TH' OPPONENT WITH A UNIQUE LINE OF ATTACK...
NOW, WATCH CLOSELY, DOC. YA MIGHT LEARN SOMETHIN'.
CHOK
SLASK
SKLISH
ZZKKT TKK!
SKTISH
CALLED SAMURAI COSTUME ALTERATIONS!
JUST LIKE I HOPED... STILL HAS HIS OLD DUDS ON UNDERNEATH!
I FIGURE HE'S BEEN BRAINWASHED OR MAYBE UNDER SOME KINDA MIND-CONTROL.
REALITY CHECK, SAMSON! YER A DOCTOR, A LICENSED HEADSHRINKER FROM TH' USA. TRY TO REMEMBER!
HE'S HESITATIN' MAYBE I GOT THROUGH.
TZZKK!
MAYBE NOT.

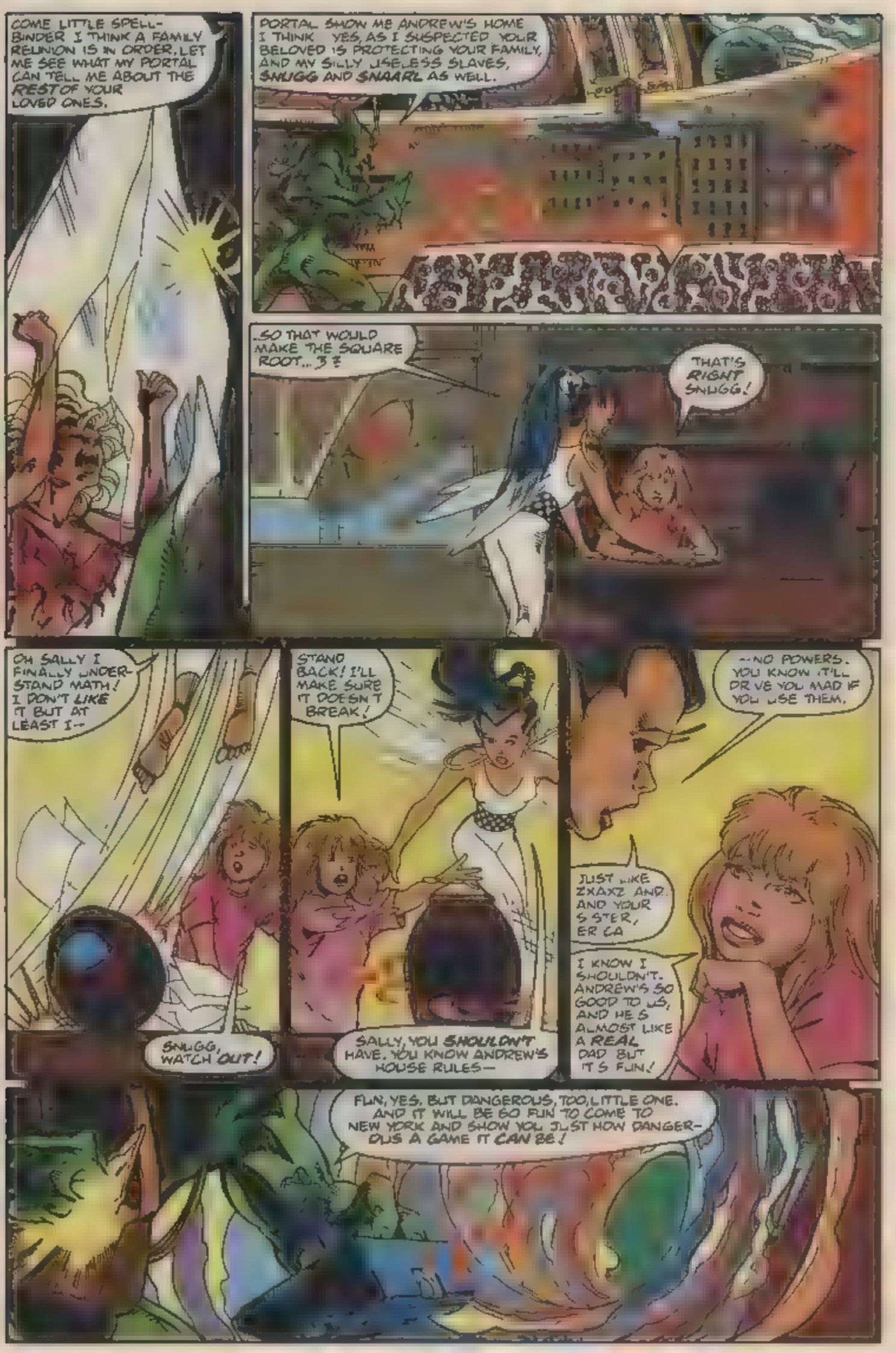
TIME TA GET SERIOUS. BRAIN-WASHED OR NOT, IT'S EITHER HIM OR ME.
CHUD
LIKE THEY SAY, NICE GUYS FINISH LAST.
SHICK
TZZKK TRZZK!
'PEARS THE PRINCESS AIN'T READY TA SACRIFICE HER TOP PLAYER...
SO SHE STACKS TH' ODDS AGAINST ME.
DON'T THESE TURKEYS EVER LEARN?
IT'S QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY THAT COUNTS!
CHAK
'COURSE, WHEN YA GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT...

ZZKK RT!
SHRAKK
IT'S WHO WINS THAT COUNTS.
KKRTZ ZKTTRT!
THE SHADOWS SWALLOW ME UP LIKE AN OL' FRIEND.
ZKT TKT!
KRKT ZKXT!
NOW WE PLAY BY MY RULES!

I TAKE STOCK OF THE SITUATION...
...JUS' HITTIN' BACK AIN'T ENOUGH... GOTTA TAKE IN TH' BIG PICTURE...
DOC SAMSON AIN'T HERE OF HIS OWN FREE WILL, THAT'S CERTAIN.
COULD BE NONE OF THESE PEOPLE ARE. IF NOT, THEN WHO'S IN CHARGE?
BETTER SCOUT AROUND. MAY-BE FIND SOME ANSWERS.
I CIRCLE AROUND MY TRACKERS WITH LITTLE EFFORT.
REAL AMATEURS... A RAMPAGIN' ELEPHANT WOULD MAKE LESS NOISE...
UNLESS THEY DON'T WANNA CATCH ME... COULD BE A DIVERSIONARY TACTIC...
SNAP!
OR...
WHA...?

COULD BE I BEEN PLAYED FOR A FOOL.
ZZTK! ZT!
TZZAK
FTZZASH
AARRGH!
SOME KINDA ENERGY WEAPONS.
BLACKNESS HITS ME LIKE A BRICK WALL.
TZZKKK! TREKKT!
NEXT ISH, MORE SHOCK SURPRISES!


SPELLBOUND
IN A DIMENSION FAR FROM OURS, THERE EXISTS A GREAT SPELLBINDER, WHOSE EVERY THOUGHT AND GESTURE CAN CREATE OR DESTROY WORLDS...
...BUT HERE ON OUR OWN WORLD, HE HAS FOUND HIS GREATEST ENEMY--FOR ANOTHER SPELL-BINDER EXISTS!
ZXAXZ'S DIMENSION...
DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, ERICA? YOUR BROTHER ROY--THAT SPELLBINDER LIPSTART--HAS SENSED YOUR DEMISE AT MY HAND, SO VERY MANY DIMENSIONS AWAY.
BUT OF COURSE YOU CAN'T SEE, WITHIN YOUR PRETTY CRYSTAL. I THINK WE SHALL HAVE TO GO TO EARTH, SO YOU CAN HAVE A BETTER VIEW.
I SENSED ERICA, JEN--SHE'S IN GREAT DANGER! BUT AT LEAST I KNOW NOW THAT SHE'S ALIVE.
I BETCHA I KNOW THAT DANGER PERSONALLY, ROY AND HIS INITIALS ARE ZXAXZ!


COME LITTLE SPELL-BINDER I THINK A FAMILY REUNION IS IN ORDER. LET ME SEE WHAT MY PORTAL CAN TELL ME ABOUT THE REST OF YOUR LOVED ONES.
PORTAL SHOW ME ANDREW'S HOME I THINK YES, AS I SUSPECTED YOUR BELOVED IS PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY, AND MY SILLY USELESS SLAVES, SNUGG AND SNAARL AS WELL.
.SO THAT WOULD MAKE THE SQUARE ROOT... 3 ?
THAT'S RIGHT SNUGG!
OH SALLY I FINALLY UNDER-STAND MATH! I DON'T LIKE IT BUT AT LEAST I--
STAND BACK! I'LL MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T BREAK!
--NO POWERS. YOU KNOW IT'LL DRIVE YOU MAD IF YOU USE THEM.
JUST LIKE ZXAXZ AND AND YOUR SISTER, ER CA
I KNOW I SHOULDN'T. ANDREW'S SO GOOD TO US, AND HE'S ALMOST LIKE A REAL DAD BUT IT'S FUN!
SNUGG, WATCH OUT!
SALLY, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE. YOU KNOW ANDREW'S HOUSE RULES--
FUN, YES, BUT DANGEROUS, TOO, LITTLE ONE. AND IT WILL BE SO FUN TO COME TO NEW YORK AND SHOW YOU JUST HOW DANGER-OUS A GAME IT CAN BE!

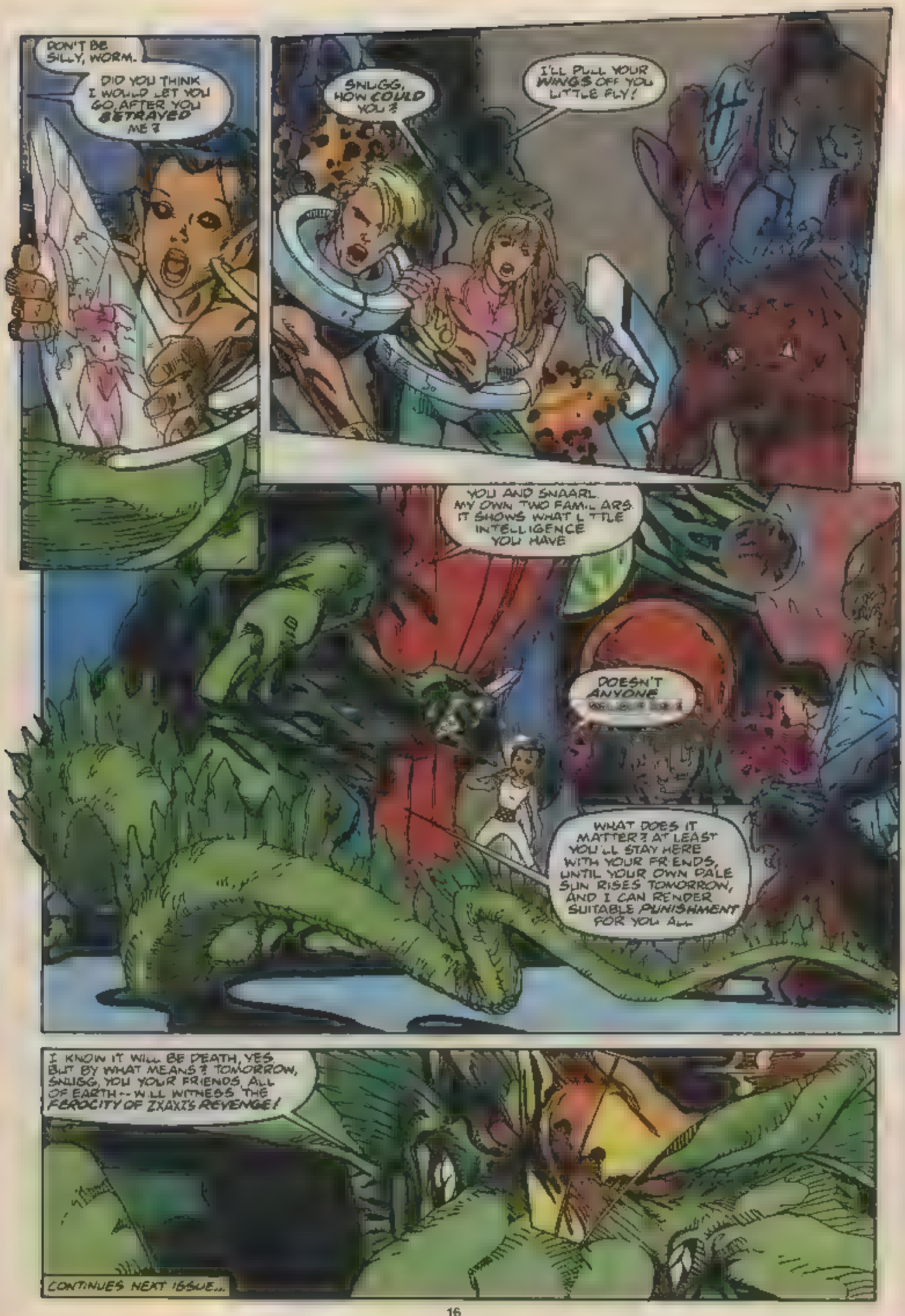
AAARGGHH! I HATE THIS BACKWATER DIMENSION! TOO LIGHT, TOO LIGHT!
HEY! YOU IN THE GODZILLA SUIT! STAY OFF THE STREETS. WHYDONTCHA?
YOU MADE ME HIT THAT POLE, JERK! YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR THIS!
OUT OF MY WAY HUMAN..
THE NEXT PERSON TO PAY WILL BE - SNUGG, I THINK YES MY BE-TRAYING SLAVE
WHO'S THERE?
FEDERAL COURIER PACKAGE FOR ANDREW KING
STAY THERE, SALLY I'LL CHECK IT OUT.
SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR US?
IT'S NOT WHAT I HAVE FOR YOU, LITTLE UPSTART

IT'S WHAT YOU HAVE FOR ME!
WHERE ARE MY ORDER AND CHAOS RINGS THAT YOU STOLE FROM ME?!
NO, ZXAXZ IT'S NOT MY FAULT! ERICA THREATENED ME INTO HELPING HER!
DO YOU THINK I'M A FOOL? BEFORE ERICA WENT MAD SHE HAD THE ONE QUALITY INEXCUSABLE IN A SPELLBINDER—GOODNESS!
BUT YOU WILL HELP ME GET THEM BACK, AND SINCE FEAR OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T WORK ON YOU BEFORE A BRIBE THEN MIGHT DO.
YOU USED TO SIMPER ABOUT GOING HOME WELL, THEN, I'LL SEND YOU, YOL AND SNAARL. I'LL GIVE YOU SAFE PASSAGE. AND EVEN RECREATE SNAARL'S HOMEWORLD. *
BUT YOU MUST GET ME MY RINGS FROM ROY.
NO! I'M NO TRAITOR TO MY FRIENDS! I LOVE SALLY AND MY NEW FAMILY, AND I'M NOT LEAVING!
* WHICH WAS DESTROYED IN THE SPELLBOUND LTD SERIES # 1
YOU LITTLE FOOL, YOU DON'T REALIZE WHAT A SHORT THREAD YOUR NEW FAMILY'S LIVES ARE HANGING FROM--NOT TO MENTION THEIR SISTER
THE CRYSTAL-- IS IT ERICA?
OKAY YOU WIN BUT YOU MUST SWEAR A SPELLBINDER'S OATH THAT YOU WON'T HURT SALLY OR MY NEW FAMILY.
AS YOU WISH IT.

THAT EVENING AT ANDREW'S_
SO SHE SAYS, "PLEASE SIR MIGHT I HAVE A PIECE OF EARTH?" HOW WAS THAT, ANDREW?
SUPER SAL. YOUR READING'S REALLY IMPROVING FAST I'M PROUD OF YOU.
YO GUYS, WHAT'S ON THE TUBE?
MOVE OVER SAL HEY, ANDY, HOW'S ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSOR?
HELLO, VANNA!
THAT DEPENDS, ROY DID YOU DO YOUR HOME-WORK?
NOT AS ABSENT-MINDED AS YOU OBVIOUSLY, DIDN'T I TELL YOU ONE HOUR OF STUDY BEFORE TV?
NOT THIS AGAIN FOR THE MILLIONTH TIME GET OFF A MY BACK!
I'VE GOT JUST ABOUT ENOUGH CASH FOR MY OWN PLACE NOW YOU'RE GETTING AS BAD AS ER·CA WAS, BEFORE THESE THINGS DROVE HER REALLY MAD.
AND BESIDES, WHO NEEDS THIS HIGH SCHOOL GARBAGE? WITH MY PAL SNAARL HERE OUR BAND IS HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE TOP
NO, ROY, DON'T! I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU, TOO!
WHAT'S GOING ON, EVERYBODY?
UH EVERY-BODY I DON'T THINK ROY'S THE BIGGEST PROBLEM RIGHT NOW...

YOU'RE RIGHT, SNARL
BUT WHATEVER HAPPENS PLEASE REMEMBER I DID IT ALL FOR YOU ROY, I NEED THE BRACELETS--
SAVE YOUR BREATH, LITTLE ONE.
HIS EYES - I CAN'T BE!
WHOAH! EVERYBODY HOLD ON!
T'IS! IT'S ZXAXZ!
DON'T WORRY EVERYBODY I CAN SAVE US WITH TH-
BUT ZXAXZ YOU PROMISED!!
PROMISED? WHY YOU DIRTY-- WHAT KINDOFA DEAL DIDJA MAKE?
SHLAAAAK
OWW!
ROY, HELLLP!
I KNEW THIS PLACE WUZ TOO GOODTA BE TRUE!

IN MY HOME OF COURSE.
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT--!
DON'T BOTHER, HUMAN. WHERE WOULD YOU GET OUT TO?
WHERE ARE WE?
YOU MIGHT AS WELL STAY, AND ENJOY MY HOSPITALITY.
THE GUARDS WILL ESCORT YOU TO MY PERSON BUT FIRST YOUR SISTER AND I WELCOME YOU.
IT IS MY SINCERE WISH THAT YOU ENJOY MY HOSPITALITY. BECAUSE THINGS ARE ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE.
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, ZXAXZ. LET US GO, TAKE YOUR STUPID RINGS AND KEEP YOUR PROMISE!


DON'T BE SILLY, WORM.
DID YOU THINK I WOULD LET YOU GO AFTER YOU BETRAYED ME?
SNUGG, HOW COULD YOU?
I'LL PULL YOUR WINGS OFF YOU LITTLE FLY!
YOU AND SNAARL. MY OWN TWO FAMILARS. IT SHOWS WHAT LITTLE INTELLIGENCE YOU HAVE
DOESN'T ANYONE
WHAT DOES IT MATTER? AT LEAST YOU'LL STAY HERE WITH YOUR FRIENDS, UNTIL YOUR OWN PALE SUN RISES TOMORROW, AND I CAN RENDER SUITABLE PUNISHMENT FOR YOU ALL
I KNOW IT WILL BE DEATH, YES. BUT BY WHAT MEANS? TOMORROW, SNUGG, YOU YOUR FRIENDS, ALL OF EARTH -- WILL WITNESS THE FEROCITY OF ZXAXIS REVENGE!
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

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Dear Richard and Mike:

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #133 was thrilling to read. I guess I like this magazine because it's bare bones, not a lot of subplots distracting from the action. It gives you a chance to dull us a story, a slice of a hero's life. I wouldn't mind reading one that was more of a "Day in the Life of," though, on top of all the action.

The covers both look like t-shirt designs. Nice graphics, but who knows what the story is about? It adds to the mystery of the mag, but it would be nice to get an idea of what's going on inside, so I can decide if I want to pick it up. Still, stylistically brilliant, dramatic. Wolverine looks hauntingly...beautiful, very alive in the heart of darkness. Ghost Rider looks as much burnt and like the dead animated.

1: "Emotional Rescue" - the best of the month. It's nice to see Luke Cage's weakness and strengths. The emotional battle looked more dramatic than most physical fights! Very realistic! Cage's reflections on Ghost Rider ("I find myself wondering if the skull even prays") really adds to both characters. It gives Ghost Rider some depth, but keeps him as he should be, distant. Cage helps us reach him without sacrificing the mystery. Plus, the story is great, the idea - original! I like seeing Cage with an opponent that's intangible. I'm looking forward to the inevitable battle nearly as much as he is! I hope it won't be just a slugfest. I'd like to see him use his mind while throwing punches! I like the respect he's getting as a person, not the token, underdeveloped stereotypical African American. He finally seems real.

2: "Nocturnal Cravings" I always loved Cloak and Dagger! Always! So they were my immediate favorite part, until I re-read everything and found the plot thin; Tesse was just used to illustrate Cloak's hunger. That's cool, but by now we know. The thing is, what is something going to be done? I'm tired of Dagger being Cloak's protector. I love seeing a young woman who is so strong, but we need to have Cloak get some help!

3: "Alone Against the Coven" Nice art. Nice seeing into Wolvie's head. I like seeing him as more than a man, more than an animal. I'm happy to see him integrated. I feel like the best is yet to come, the setting and characters are introduced; we can get to the heart of the matter!

4: "Opening Gambit" I never could get into Iron Fist. Sometimes he's Mr. Average Nice Guy, then he's Martial Master Supreme battling evil. I never feel the effects this has on him.

Misty and Colleen both have more personality. I'd like to know who this guy is! At least this story has me wanting to like him. If Colleen and Misty do, he must have something! They also help to let us see what's going on.

I'd like to see more women in these pages. Besides Barbie and She-Hulk, none of the Marvel women have a book! Jubilee would be fun. So would Hellcat (if Patsy's mind gets better), Rogue, or Sabra—remember her? Or Shamrock?

The last two are totally underdeveloped! Too bad the Valkyrie's dust—a team-up of her and Hellcat would be spectacular. What's Clea doing? And the neglected Starjammers? I'd love to see them in their element away from Earth! (Or even on Earth). There is so much room to move in this book. I'm excited for you! You have the best talent and hundreds of choices. This book probably is the hardest to edit!

How do you choose?

Sorry this letter is so long, but I'm getting involved with a book again—a nice feeling. I hope making it is as enjoyable as reading it. One of the best things is that stories come to completion—no more spending ten years on a subplot! Yay!

Heather Royce-Roll
Norwich, NY

Thank you, Heather. I'm sorry we couldn't print every word of your letter but we're excited that you're

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
GHOST RIDER

Fred Harper— COVER
Richard Ashford — EDITOR
Michael Kraiger — ASSISTANT EDITOR
Tom DeFalco —EDITOR IN CHIEF

GHOST RIDER ..... pg. 1
FELLOW TRAVELERS...
Part 3 of 6
"FANGS OF FURY"

The Masters of Silence were hired by Chinese peasants to track down thousands of missing persons lured to America by unscrupulous gangsters. The Ghost Rider was following the cries of slaughtered innocents - the two were bound to meet.

Writer — LEN KAMINSKI
Breakdowns — REGGIE JONES
Finishes — FRED HARPER
Letterer — UL HIGGINS
Colors — JOE ANDREANI

BATROC ..... pg. 9
"FEAT FIRST"

Will Batroc help a lady in distress? Of course, if the price is right.

Writer —MIKE LACKEY
Artist —PEDI
Letterer —LORETTA KROL
Colorist — MIKE THOMAS

I AM TSIN HARK.
THREE OF YOU I RECOGNIZE AS IZANUMA, KAZE AND KAMINARI*...
--THE MASTERS OF SILENCE, WITH WHOM I'VE HAD PREVIOUS DEALINGS
BY THE DISTINCTIVE VISAGE OF THE FOURTH I RECOGNIZE THE BEING KNOWN AS [redacted]
WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE?
GHOST RIDER
FELLOW TRAVELERS PART III
FANGS OF FURY
*LIGHTNING, WIND AND THUNDER
VENGEANCE.
RETRIBUTION FOR THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS INNOCENTS SNUFFED OUT--
--VICTIMS WHOSE BLOOD FILLS THE TEN-GALLON DRUMS STORED HERE

AH, YES. A DISTASTEFUL BUT NECESSARY OPERATION.
YOU SEE, I AM ATTEMPTING TO PURGE MANKIND OF A CANCER.
ONCE, THE WORLD WAS PURE.
MEN WERE RULED BY FAITH AND TRADITION, THEIR SPIRITS IN BALANCE.
BUT THEN CAME A DISEASE OF THE MIND--A SICKNESS OF SPIRIT.
MEN DISCARDED THE OLD WAYS, AND TURNED TO THE FALSE GODS OF SCIENCE--
--THANKS TO WHICH OUR WORLD LIES DYING POISONED; OUR CULTURES LOST; OUR TRADITIONS FORGOTTEN
BUT SOON THAT TIDE WILL BE TURNED BACK THE SICKNESS CALLED SCIENCE WILL BE BURNED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
AND YOU FOUR--

SWAPT
--ARE PERFECT EXAMPLES OF WHY!
THE PARCHMENT ADHERES TO MY BROW--
--INSCRIBED UPON, A SPELL OF BINDING...
YOU'LL FIND THAT YOU ARE QUITE THOROUGHLY IMMOBILIZED, DEMON
WITH A SPLENDID VIEW--
OF THE MASTER'S DEATH-THROES.

YOU FOUR DISGUST ME BEINGS WITH YOUR SPIRITUAL POWER..
--EMPLOYING SUCH ABHORRENT DEVICES AS MOTORCYCLES AND ELECTRONICS
SHAMEFUL.
NOT TO MENTION USELESS AGAINST THE POWERS AT MY COMMAND
GYNOSII,*
* THE CHINESE UNDEAD, A CROSS BETWEEN VAMPIRES AND ZOMBIES. -Richard
NATURALLY.
AFTER ALL, ONCE I'D DRAINED THEM OF THEIR BLOOD, I COULDN'T VERY WELL LET THE BODIES GO TO WASTE
FAREWELL.
SCHHRRRGGGH!

HA!!
KRUTCH
SKRUPT
FRARRRGH!
HAAAGGGHH!
HARK'S SORCERIES ARE OF A TYPE UNFAMILIAR TO ME.
THEY ARE SUBTLE AND POTENT.
THEY DEFY MY EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THEM

SKUTCH
KRAPPT
NAA!
SSSSCHHH!
SSNARRGH!
GRITCH
HAH!
NRRGH!
CHHHHSST!
KI-YAA!
WHSKROLTCH
THERE MUST BE HUNDREDS OF THEM
THE MASTERS ARE FORMIDABLE WARRIORS, BUT EVEN THEY CANNOT HOPE TO CONTEND WITH THIS SAVAGE HORDE INDEFINITELY.
SOMEHOW I MUST BREAK FREE OF HIS MADDENING PARALYSIS
RAKTCH
SKRIPT
YES
FUELED BY THE STRENGTH OF THE UNDEAD--
--REMORSELESS, TIRELESS--
KLUTCH

IF I CANNOT--
THEY ARE DOOMED...
--UNLIKE OUR-SELVES...
SKRUTCH
RRARRGH!
SXRUP
HAI!
HARRGGGH!
NEXT: THINGS GET WORSE!

A CRISP, BEAUTIFUL MORNING IN MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA.
THE HOTEL GRANDE RADISSON HAS LODGED MANY LUMINARIES OF STAGE SCREEN, AND POLITICS
BUT NEVER ONE AS FLAMBOYANT AS THE BRIGHTLY GARBED FIGURE ENJOYING A LUNGFUL OF FRESH MORNING AIR
BATROC
FEAT FIRST
AH GEORGES, ZERE 'S NOTHING LIKE ZE START OF A NEW DAY!
A DAY RIPE WITH ZEE POSSIBILITIES OF ADVENTURE, DANGER, AND ROMANCE!
I HAVE TIPPED ZEE BELLHOPS, DINED WITH ZEE CONSIERGE, AND FLIRTED WITH ZEE CHAMBERMAIDS.
BUT NOW IT EEZ TIME TO SAY ADIEU TO ZESE FINE ACCOMMODATIONS, AND EXPLORE ALL ZAT ZEES GREAT METROPOLIS HAS TO OFFER
HOW CLEAN EEZ ZEESE CITY-- ZEE PEOPLE SO FRIENDLY!
NOT LIKE ZAT FILTHY DIRTY NEW YORK. THOSE AMERICANS ARE SUCH PEEGS!

SACRE BLEU!
BATHROOOM!
ZAT BANK! ZOMEONE EEZ BLOWING IT SKY-HIGH!
I HATE TO THEENK OF ALL ZAT BEAUTIFUL CASH EXPLODING NOT TO MENTION ZEE PEOPLE--!
YES EEZ SAD INDEED BUT FORTUNATELY ZEESE EEZ NOT ZEE BANK BATROC'S ACCOUNT EEZ IN.
SOMEONE HELP ME! MY HUSBAND'S INSIDE!
ALAS, A QUERY FOR ANOTHER DAY FOR NOW MONTREAL'S FAMOUS MEN'S ENTERTAWMENT CENTRES AWAIT ZEE LEAPER!
I WONDER -EEZ BATROC ZEE TOTAL HEEL, JUST FOR LOOKING AFTER NUMBER ONE?
ALAS MADAME, IT SADDENS ME TO SAY I HAVE A PRIOR ENGAGEMENT.
PLEASE
YOU ARE ZE GREAT BATROC ARE YOU NOT? YOU HAVE BEATEN ZE CAPTAIN AMERICA! SURELY YOU CAN HELP MY BELOVED GEOFF!
PLEASE! I WEEL PAY YOU GREAT ZUMS OF MONEY TO SAVE MY HUSBAND!
HE EEZ ZE BANK MANAGER--HE EEZ BEING ROBBED!
ALLURES, MADAME! YOU HAVE MADE ZEES A MATTER OF HONAIR!

AND, ALTHOUGH ZUM WOULD BEG TO DIFFER, [redacted] LEAPER HAS EVER BEEN HONORABLE!
PLEASE HURRY, MONSIEUR!!!
IN THE BANK.
EEZ A SMOKY INFERNO.
I KNOW ZEM! EEZ ADAHM AND ZEE GOON-SQUAD, ZEE AMATEUR BANK-ROBBING GANG!
THIS IS GREAT!
MY NEW ENCEPHALO-AMPLIFIER MAGNIFIES MY ALREADY TREMENDOUS TELEKINETIC POWER!
MAKING IT CHILD'S PLAY TO RIP OPEN THE VAULT DOORS WITH MY PSYCHIC BLASTS!
ZAT MUST BE GEOFF!
ZEESE MAY BE A COMPLETELY SELFISH TRAIN OF THOUGHT, BUT EEF I CAN ROUND UP ZE VILLAINS AND LEAVE THEM FOR ZEE GENDARMES...
. I CAN HELP MYSELF TO A BIT OF CASH AND STEEL BE ZEE BEEG HERO!

EN GUARD, GOON-SQUAD!!
HAH! I ZEE YOUR MOUTHS ARE AGAPE AT BATROC'S DAZZLING BATTLE SKEELS!
SHOOT TO KILL!!
POW
BLAM
BOOM
BAM
PEE-YOWINGGG
KRAK
ALLURES! ZEY ARE NOT AS IMPRESSED AS I'D HOPED!
GOOD.
I WAS GOING TO GO EASY ON YOU BOYS AS YOU ARE--HOW YOU SAY? --ZEE RANK AMATEURS!
BUT SINCE YOU HAVE NOT SHOWN ZEE LEAPER ZEE PROPER RESPECT HE IS DUE..
MY JAW!
...IT SHALL GIVE ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ANNIHILATE YOU INEXPERIENCED BUNGLERS!!
CAN'T--!
TOO FAST--!
THWAM
KRAK
SMAK
THWAP
HAH! ONCE AGAIN ZEE LEAPER RAISES HIS HANDS IN VICTORY!
ZEE SMELL OF ZEES MONEY EEZ SO SWEET!

ZARK!
ZEE MIDGET! I ALMOST FORGOT!
DON'T PATRONIZE ME, LEAPER--YOU DID FORGET!
THEY ALL FORGET... ALL YOU TALLIES WRITE OFF THE VERTICALLY CHALLENGED!
WELL, LET'S SEE YOU WRITE OFF ONE OF MY ENHANCED PSYCHIC BLASTS!
TALLIES?
FOR YEARS IT WAS ONE DEMEANING JOB AFTER ANOTHER--
--BUT NOW I'M IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT!
YOU ARE ZEE VERY ANGRY MEEDGET, MON AMI!
OH, MY ACHING HEAD.
OH NO! THAT'S BATROC THE LEAPER! HE MUST BE ROBBING US!
ZEN AGAIN, IT WOULD FIGURE THAT YOU'RE SHORT-TEMPERED!
I'VE GOTTA MAKE A PHONE CALL!
WITH THIS MONEY I WAS TO FINANCE MY WAR AGAINST TALL PEOPLE! YOU'VE RUINED EVERYTHING!
ZARK!
WAS NEVER MY INTENTION, SMALL FRY!..
I AM ZIMPLY TRYING TO--!
ZARK!
MY MASK! HOW DARE YOU?!
FOR ZAT YOU SHALL PAY UN MILLE FOIS!

I SHALL HAVE YOUR BEEG BALD HEAD ON A PLATE!
VERY DRAMATIC, LEAPER.
A GOOD CHOICE FOR YOUR LAST WORDS!
ZARK!
YOU HAVE BECOME QUITE ZEE DIMINUTIVE PEST...
...AND ZEE LEAPER'S PATIENCE EEZ AT ZEE END!
NO! STAY STILL!
OOF!
ALAS, ZAT EEZ A REQUEST ZAT ZEE LEAPER CANNOT HONAIR!
THW-BAPP!
B-THUNK!
HOW HUMILIATING!
KSSH!
NOW ZAT WAS QUITE ZEE CONFLICT.

EH?
MONSIEUR BATROC! TV NEWS, CHANNEL SIX!
YOU ROUSTED ADAHM'S GOON-SQUAD AND SAVED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS...
...HOW DID YOU PERFORM SUCH A HEROIC FEAT?
'TWAS NO EASY TASK, MON AMI. ZEEZE WERE NO AMATEURS!
BETWEEN THEIR WEAPONS AND ADAHM'S MENTAL POWERS, EVEN ZEE LEAPER WAS SORELY TESTED!
IN FACT...
...GEOFF MONTE, HERE. I'M BRANCH MANAGER, AND TO TELL MSR. BATROC'S STORY, YOU'VE REALLY GOTTA TELL MINE.
HEY!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A BANKER.
WHEN THE GOON-SQUAD BURST IN, I THOUGHT WE WERE GONERS...
...BUT MY QUICK-THINKING WIFE, RHONDA SAVED THE DAY BY ENLISTING MSR. BATROC'S AID!
"AID"?!?
OF COURSE I HAD ALREADY SOFTENED THEM UP CONSIDERABLY.
DID I MENTION THAT I KNOW KUNG FU?
IN FACT, GIVEN MORE TIME, I'D HAVE SINGLE-HANDEDLY DEFEATED THE GOON-SQUAD, AND-- URKK!!
SHUT UP, YOU TOAD OF A MAN! I CAN STAND NO MORE!!
I WISH MY HANDS TO BE BRUISED FROM SLAPPING YOU AND YOUR STUPID WIFE IN ZE HEAD!

YOU A HERO ? EEZ TO LAUGH ! YOU HAD FAINTED !
FAINTED ? NO, I WAS RESTING AFTER A BRUTAL WORKOUT, I...
YOU ARE ZO BORING.
AND ZINCE ALL YOU TALK IS TRASH...
ZEE LEAPER SHALL PROVIDE ZEE CONCLUSION TO YOUR NARRATIVE!
YUCK!
IT'S STINKY!
LET'S GO, NO STORY HERE
RADIO SAYS A MAN JUMPED IN A LION'S CAGE AT THE ZOO!
LET'S GO!
WAIT! IT'S A GOOD STORY!
WHAT DO I TELL MY BOSS ?
WEEL YOU NEVAIR STOP YOUR INSUFFERABLE WHINING ?!?
MONSIEUR, YOUR CAREER IS DEAD NOW, THAT'S TRUE. HERE EEZ TEN THOUSAND DOLLAIRS...
...I SUGGEST YOU USE ZIS MONEY EITHER TO RETIRE OR BUY ZOM HAIR --
--WHICHEVER YOU CHOOSE, EEZ UP TO YOU!
THE VERY FRENCH END!